

## PROJECT SUMMARY

**County: Butte**

**Applicant: City of Chico**

**Project Title: Iron Canyon Fish Passage Project**

### PROJECT GOAL

This project will re-establish spring-run salmon and steelhead passage at low and moderate flows through Iron Canyon; an area of basalt boulders that impedes migration to holding and spawning habitat on Big Chico Creek.

### PROJECT SCOPE

Big Chico Creek is identified by the National Marine Fisheries Service as extant habitat for spring run Chinook salmon and steelhead, both listed as threatened species. A major impediment to the Big Chico Creek fishery is a natural obstruction called Iron Canyon, an area where basalt boulders have tumbled into the canyon. In 1958, the CA Department of Fish and Game built a series of concrete weirs that formed a ladder of pools that the fish can use to migrate to holding and spawning habitat upstream. That ladder has since fallen into disrepair and a number of public and nonprofit entities have collaborated to develop and implement a rehabilitation project.

The project outcome is provision of passage for spring run salmon to holding and spawning habitat on the Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve (Reserve) and privately stewarded large parcels upstream. The 4000-acre Reserve was purchased by the CSU, Chico Research Foundation (Foundation) through a collaborative effort in 2000.

SNC grant funds will be used for the following major tasks: grant administration and management; construction management subcontract development and execution; construction contractor selection and contract development; construction implementation; and extensive public outreach on the fishery resource and the community collaboration to develop and implement the project.

CEQA compliance for this project is now complete and NEPA compliance is underway. Permit applications are also in development. Under an existing U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) grant, a construction bid package will be prepared. The construction of the fish passage project entails partial demolition and reconstruction of 18 concrete weirs and installation of 6 new weirs to a maximum jump height of 1.5 feet, which currently exceeds 4 feet.

Work products for construction include as built documents. Work products for grant administration include contract documents, quarterly reports and a final report. Work products for outreach include the development of an outreach plan,

public presentations, periodic newsletters and a conference presentation on spring run salmon/steelhead and the community collaborative that produced the project.

The City of Chico is acting as the grant applicant to implement the construction project. Other partners include the Foundation for grant management, HDR Engineering for construction management and Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance for outreach. Construction will be awarded by competitive bid. The CA Department of Fish and Game will provide long-term maintenance of the project.

SNC grant funds will total approximately 50% of the needed funding. Applications are also planned this fall to the CALFED Watershed Program and this spring to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

### LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance  
 CSU, Chico Research Foundation  
 CA Department of Fish and Game  
 Butte County Supervisor Maureen Kirk  
 Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve

### SNC PROJECT DELIVERABLES AND SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Subcontracts for engineering, grant management and outreach	October, 2009
Outreach plan	December, 2009
Outreach materials (newsletters, website pages, etc.)	Quarterly
Draft request for bids for SNC review	December, 2009
Final request for bids	January, 2010
Draft construction subcontract for SNC review	March, 2010
Executed construction subcontract and Notice to Proceed	April, 2010
Mobilization	June, 2010
As built documents	November, 2010
Final report	December, 2010

### SNC PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Personnel	\$6,000
Professional services – grant management	\$22,000
Professional services – engineering	\$93,500
Professional services – outreach	\$12,500
Construction	\$866,000
<b>SNC GRANT TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>